

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-08

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R 231148Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7020
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

S E C R E T BONN 05339

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, TU, GW, SU
SUBJECT: GENSCHER ON TURKEY

1. DURING MY MEETING WITH GENSCHER ON MARCH 22 HE
REFERRED TO A REPORT FROM THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR IN
MOSCOW REGARDING THE TURKISH REPLY TO BREZHNEV'S LETTER
ON THE NEUTRON BOMB. THE FRG AMBASSADOR UNDERSTOOD
THAT ECEVIT HAD SENT A "GOOD REPLY" WHICH POINTED TO THE
DEFENSIVE CHARACTER OF THE WEAPON. GENSCHER INTERPRETED
THIS REPORT AS AN INDICATION THAT ECEVIT WANTED TO
DEMONSTRATE HIS DESIRE TO BE A RELIABLE NATO PARTNER.

2. CONTINUING, GENSCHER STRESSED THE HIGH PRIORITY THE
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FRG PRESENTLY ATTACHES TO ITS RELATIONS WITH TURKEY.
HE BELIEVED IT PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT THE WEST
ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST ECEVIT IN THESE FORMATIVE STAGES
OF HIS ADMINISTRATION. NEGOTIATIONS ON GREEK ACCESSION
TO THE EC WERE MAKING PROGRESS AND IT WOULD BE NECESSARY
TO MOVE FORWARD CONCURRENTLY ON RELATIONS WITH TURKEY.
ANKARA MUST NOT BE GIVEN THE FEELING THAT IT WAS BEING

ISOLATED FROM A COMMUNITY WHICH WOULD SOON INCLUDE GREECE. CONCLUDING, GENSCHER SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE ADMINISTRATION MIGHT SOON SUBMIT THE DCA TO CONGRESS. LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL WOULD BE A WELCOME DEVELOPMENT.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE HEARD THESE THEMES STRUCK BEFORE BY WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIALS. THE FRG IS A LONG-TIME, STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF TURKEY AND BELIEVES ECEVIT--BESET BY PROBLEMS AT HOME AND BEING COURTED BY THE SOVIETS--MUST BE GIVEN ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE AT THIS TIME. WHILE THE FRG IS WELL AWARE THAT WE SHARE ITS SENSE OF URGENCY ABOUT TURKEY AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN, THERE IS SOME FEELING HERE THAT THE US--PARTICULARLY IN THE ABSENCE OF A DCA--WILL HAVE A DECREASING IMPACT ON EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE CYPRUS SITUATION. THIS VIEW, COUPLED WITH THE STRONG PERSONAL TIES THAT EXIST BETWEEN ECEVIT AND GERMAN LEADERS, MAY WELL LEAD BONN TO CONSIDER A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN THE AREA. STOESEL

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